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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Richard A. Bauman*

**PATENT**

**Attorney Docket No. NTI-020**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application )

PATENT APPLICATION

Inventor(s): J. Tracy Weed et al. )

Art Unit: 2812

Application No.: 09/752,809 )

Examiner: unknown

Filed: 12/27/2000 )

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SEP 18 2002

Title "Manufacturing Integrated Circuits" )

Technology Center 2100

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed below or on an attached Form PTO-1449 is information known to applicant(s). A copy of each listed publication and U.S. and foreign patent, except for pending U.S. applications, is being submitted herewith, along with a concise explanation of information in a foreign language, if any, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed information be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the above-identified application. If form PTO-1449 is enclosed, the Examiner is requested to initial and return it in accordance with MPEP § 609.

This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

- ☒ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):
- ☐ (1) It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date and is other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d)  
-- OR --
  - ☐ (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage  
-- OR --
  - ☒ (3) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits.  
-- OR --
  - ☐ (4) It is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114
- ☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). If this statement is being filed after the period specified in § 1.97(b), but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under § 1.113, a notice of allowance under § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, then:
- ☐ a certification as specified in § 1.97(e) is provided below; **or**
  - ☐ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.
- ☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the period specified in § 1.97(c), but on or before payment of the issue fee, then:
- A. a certification as specified in § 1.97(e) is completed below; **and**
  - B. a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.
- ☒ **Fee Authorization.** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0574 (Docket No. NTI-020).

Respectfully submitted,

BEVER, HOFFMAN & HARMS, LLP

Dated: 7-11-02

By:   
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